Annual Report

Westhampton Massachusetts

1995

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TOWN OFFICERS

TOWN

OF

WESTHAMPTON

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1995

CHARLES AND GERALDINE OGNIBENE

Charlie and Gerry Ognibene moved to Westhampton in 1960. In 1962, Charlie was elected to his first term as Tax Collector. His tenure spanned for decades until his resignation in 1995. Of course, those even remotely familiar with operations knew that Gerry deserved just as much credit for the efficient handling of the position. Often, Westhampton stood out as the only city or town in the Commonwealth with no overdue taxes.

Charlie also served on the Finance Committee, organized the 4-H Horse Club, coached Little League and served as Dog Officer. He was known to say, "Your community gives to you; be sure to give back."

The Town of Westhampton thanks Charlie and Gerry for their years of service to the community and dedicates this year's Town Report to them in appreciation.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Report of the Board of Selectmen..... 1
Report of the Hampshire County Commissioner..... 3
Report of the Hilltown Community Devel. Corp..... 5
Report of the Board of Assessors..... 6
Report of the Planning Board..... 7
Report of the Board of Appeals..... 8
Report of the Finance Committee..... 8
Report of the Town Clerk.....10
Report of the Town Treasurer.....12
Report of the Tax Collector.....13
Report of the Town Accounting Officer.....17
Balance Sheet.....36
Report of the Conservation Commission.....38
Report of the Board of Health.....39
Report of the Hilltown Resource Mgt. Coop.....41
Report of the Animal Inspector.....42
Report of the Cemetery Caretaker.....43
Report of the Police Department.....44
Report of the Fire Department.....45
Report of the Emergency Medical Services.....48
Report of the Highway Department.....49
Report of the Building Inspector.....51
Report of the Plumbing Inspector.....52
Report of the Sanitation Inspector.....52
Report of the Historical Commission.....52
Report of the Council on Aging.....54
Report of the Recreation Commission.....57
Report of the Cultural Council.....57
Report of the Westhampton Memorial Library.....59
Report of the Library Treasurer.....61
Report of the Westhampton School Committee.....63
Report of the Superintendent of Schools.....65
Westhampton School Financial Statement.....70
Report of the Hampshire Regional School Committee...72
Hampshire Regional School District Reports.....75
Proposed Budget Fiscal 1997.....81
Salaries.....83
Articles on the Warrant.....84

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

1995 seems to be heading our town toward many interesting, but difficult, problems in the upcoming years. With Title V rules and regulations continually being dissected and revised, master plan discussions inching closer, and landfill closure on the horizon, it might seem we long for the days of just "dog bite" issues.

It is with these issues, and the ones already solved, that I commend all of the dedicated residents that have stepped up to help us meet both past and present challenges.

Our present Board consists of Ben Coggins, Chairman, Diane Kwolek, and newest member Lydia Omasta.

In looking back over the past year we have many things to be thankful for. We have newly appointed EMTS, John Shaw and Mike Derouin. David Leuschner has been appointed to the Police Department, Laura Blakesley as Tax Collector, Dolores Thornhill to ZBA and Karla Stefansson is doing well as our new Town Clerk. Bob Turner is our newest member on the Board of Health.

Several committees, such as the Space Needs Committee, consisting of Janice Tracy, Dick Huntley, Tim Daley and John Bridgman, have put in many taxing hours trying to point the town in the correct direction in regard to town spatial expansion. Our Open Space Committee, chaired by Garry Cousins, along with two other appointees Amy Phinney and Nancy Whitley, has begun to tackle difficult issues. It is these committees, and others like them, that keep our town purposely pointed toward the horizons.

The Fire Department should be noted for their tremendous efforts in donating their time and expertise to help complete the new fire station addition, while still maintaining their duties on the homefront.

Our Highway Department, under the careful watch

of Superintendent Bill Tracy, joined by David Blakesley, James Omasta, and newest member Peter Montague, have accomplished the job over and above expectations considered adequate. Beginning with the many storms we encountered toward the end of this year, and including the wind storm of July 15 (which caused power outages and spoilage of food), this crew has responded to the different challenges. We, the Board, are deeply appreciative of their efforts. Also, in regard to the July 15 storm, thanks are due to the Firemen, EMTs and Francis Loud for their many acts of help and concern.

We want to thank the Board of Health for their efforts in trying to keep the Town up to date on the everchanging concerns of landfill closure. Also, they, along with Margaret Parsons, have helped secure Westhampton a place in the Septic System Loan Grant Program.

A special mention goes to the Planning Board, and Chairman Pat Coffey, for completion of the revised town by-laws. This was a long and difficult process. These bylaws have been approved by the Attorney General and will be official March 15, 1996.

Thanks goes to Police Chief David Huntley and our police force for helping to keep crime at a very low rate. We offer congratulations on the newly acquired bulletproof vests and data terminal, which were obtained through Federal grants.

The Board regretfully accepted the following resignations: Phil Dowling,from the Board of Health; Charles Ognibene, the Town's Tax Collector for 31 years; Charles Burgess, Town Hall custodian; Fred Thouin from the Police Department; and Phoebe Mitchell from the Conservation Commission. We will miss all of these civic minded people.

We have successfully achieved closure on several issues. We finalized transfers from the Water Company to the Town. We have resolved the dispute involving the town lighting of the flag and Veterans Memorial on the town green. We also are exploring the

feasibility of a master plan committee which will encompass a complete assessment of future town development.

The Board would like to mention the cooperation of the local abutters and residents surrounding Jaws junkyard. They, along with Dave Baillargeon, owner of Jaws, have made great progress towards a safer and healthier town environment.

Mr. Tracy and crew have finished the handicap parking project for the Town Hall. The Town received a $3400 grant from HCDC to help finish this project.

The old furnace in the Town Hall has been replaced. We thank Lydia Omasta for her efforts in that task. It has been a cause of concern for many years.

The Board of Selectmen welcomes everyone to attend our meetings and share their ideas and viewpoints with us. Until then, we will continue to work on your behalf.

Respectfully submitted,

Benjamin Coggins
Diane Kwolek
Lydia Omasta
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

REPORT OF THE HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COMMISSIONER

The County Cooperative Purchasing Program continues to serve the residents of Hampshire County through formal bidding efforts on behalf of 10 county departments, 19 municipalities, 11 school districts and 47 human service agencies. Now in its 16th year of operation, membership also includes 19 other school districts located throughout the Berkshire, Franklin,

Hampden and Worcester County region.

During Fiscal Year 1995, Chief Procurement Officer, Anne Moran, and her staff of two, administered cooperative bids for goods and services in the amount of $7M with a projected savings of $3.8M. The Co-op operates on the principle that buying in bulk generates additional savings over lone bidding efforts while eliminating duplication of administrative work and ensuring compliance with state procurement laws. A "fee for savings" generated $35,786 toward offsetting operating expenses of $101,565. The Town of Westhampton bought $183,665.36 worth of goods through the County Cooperative and Hampshire Regional bought $70,165.17 worth of goods, while Westhampton Elementary School bought $7,407.01 worth of goods.

One of the many committees I serve on is the Regional Services Municipal Advisory Committee. This year we got surplus equipment such as trucks, office furniture, tools, snowplows and cars, which were delivered to Hampshire County communities from federal surplus property. Allowing municipal departments to have needed equipment they could not otherwise afford and stretching municipal tax dollars for other purposes, Geoff Rogers, our Regional Services coordinator, filled the "wish lists" of many financially strapped municipal departments. For equipment originally worth $500,000, municipalities paid $2,170 in fees to the County. They paid an additional $25,982 to the State, which controls access to the federal screening permit necessary for the County to do this work. The Town of Westhampton received the following equipment through this program: fax machine for the Police Department, arbor press for the Highway Department and a file cabinet for the Tax Collector.

The Regional Services Committee received a $10,000 grant from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency and we worked with the Hampshire County Fire Defense Association and a consultant to study regionalization of emergency planning in Hampshire County. The project will help communities work together to comply with the federal mandate of planning

for hazardous material emergencies.

During FY95 we developed a regional building inspection program to enable towns without full-time inspectors to have professional building inspection and zoning enforcement. The program began at the close of FY95 with two participating communities, Chesterfield and Huntington. The program is supported by a fee from each participating town based on that town's population.

Training arranged this year for municipal officials included a workshop on ethics, a municipal law seminar, and a workshop for Franklin and Hampshire County Municipal Treasurers and Tax Collectors.

Funding for the Hampshire County Jail and House of Correction is now appropriated entirely at the state level. The Department of Revenue has instructed counties that no further appropriation is necessary at the local level. I also serve on the Public Safety Municipal Advisory Committee and we continue to have a statutory obligation for oversight and conducted two inspections of the Jail and House of Correction this year. The facility continues to be committed to excellence in terms of standards and conditions and receives high accolades from state officials on a variety of annual inspections.

Anyone wishing any County information or assistance may contact me or Penny Geis, County Administrator.

Respectfully submitted,

David K. Bridgman
Commissioner

REPORT OF THE HILLTOWN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Hilltown Community Development Corporation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to

enhancing the economic self sufficiency of the Hilltown area. The HCDC was incorporated in March 1981 with the towns of Chester, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Middlefield, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg, and Worthington participating. The mission of the HCDC is to improve the quality of life in the Hilltowns by addressing the economic environmental and social needs while preserving the rural integrity of the area.

Lydia Omasta is on the Board of Directors of the HCDC. The Board meets on the second Thursday of the month at the HCDC offices in Chesterfield at 7:00P.M.

The sum of $30,000 was given to Westhampton to make the Town Hall handicapped accessible. This was part of a Community Development Block Grant awarded to the HCDC. The local project included a lift from the main hall to the stage area, modifying the back hallway to accommodate a wheelchair, widening some interior doors, and creating two handicapped parking spaces at the side door.

Respectfully submitted,

Lydia C. Omasta

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

In 1995 the Board of Assessors issued 111 abatements and exemptions: 53 Real Estate and Personal Property and 59 Motor Vehicle; updated 73 properties undergoing construction or remodeling; recorded 59 property transfers; and approved the placing of 8 additional parcels under the protection of Chapters 61, 61A and 61B.

The town started the first phase of the 100% revaluation for FY98 where every house in the town will be visited. One third of houses were visited this year by Lawrence G. LaBarbera, ASA, CMA and he will visit the rest of the town over the next two years.

The town value for FY96 is $112,932,600: Real Estate - $87,341,600; Personal Property - $1,813,500; and Exempt - $23,777,500.

The Tax Rate was set in December of 1995 at $16.30 per $1000.00 of evaluation.

The Board of Assessors meets every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Assessor's Office at the Town Hall. Please feel free to come up or call us at that time.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Nevins, Jr.
Priscilla A. Miller
John F. Shaw, Jr.

REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

This year the Board reviewed and signed off on approximately 7 plot plans, and 4 building permit applications. Much of our time was spent presenting and passing the new Zoning Bylaws. The Attorney General approved the new Bylaws this fall. The new Bylaws became effective this past winter.

No subdivision plans were submitted.

The Board meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Coffey
Mark Schwallie
Steven Malinowski
James Prickett
William Kalmakis

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF APPEALS

The Board conducted the following hearings in 1995:

Case #100
Petition of Henry Geryk for a decision on an administrative appeal of the Building Inspector's decision on common driveways. Petition denied.

Case #101
Petition of Rene and Annette Levay seeking a special permit for a two family. Petition granted.

Case #102
Petition of Richard and Shirley Raymond seeking a variance to build a garage on a lot with less than the required setback from side lot line. Petition granted.

The members of the board thank Marilyn Cervelli and Peter Montague for their years of service. Their terms expired this year and they will be missed.

New members appointed in 1995 are Robert Turner and Dolores Thornhill.

Respectfully submitted,

John Shaw	Steve Malinowski
Marilyn Cervelli	Robert Turner
Peter Ignatovich	Dolores Thornhill
Nancy Bouthilette	Dan Bishop

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

As of January 1, 1995 the Finance Committee members were:

Bradford Morse,	1995
Mark Thornhill	1995

Owen Bowman	1996
David Brown	1996
Laura Blakesley	1996
Lydia Omasta,	1996
Janice Tracy, Chairperson	1997
Margaret Parsons	1997
Roy Van Driesche	1997

At the elections in June Mark Thornhill was reelected and Wallace Hlava was elected to a three year term. There is still one vacancy. open. Janice Tracy was elected chairperson and Mark Thornhill, Secretary.

Reserve Fund transfers made in Fiscal 1995:

Road Machinery Account	$2300 (January 1995)

Reserve Fund transfers made in Fiscal 1996:

Veterans	$ 350 (December 1995)
Road Machinery Account	$3000 (January 1996)

Special Town Meetings were held in January, March and June to transfer monies from available funds to cover deficits in various accounts. In June we were able to recommend putting $9200 back into the Stabilization Fund from a surplus in the Vocational Account.

The Finance Committee met through the year to consider financial matters of the town and to make recommendations when necessary. Budget hearings were held the early spring to prepare budget recommendations for the Town Meeting on May 13, 1995. In addition to he usual budget items there was a deficit of $3125 in the FY95 Snow Removal Account. Because of votes taken in other towns, Westhampton's assessment to HRHS was significantly reduced and Town Meeting was adjourned with a balanced budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Tracy, Chairperson
Mark Thornhill, Secretary
Owen Bowman
Laura Blakesley
David J. Brown
Lydia Omasta
Roy Van Driesche
Wallace Hlava
Margaret Parsons

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

1995 saw the implementation of the Motor Voter Registration system that allows Town Clerks to register voters through a statewide network. Several State/ Federal agencies, including the Motor Vehicle Registry department are facilitating increased voter registration by providing individuals with registration forms when they come in for licenses or change of name/address.

It has never been easier to register to vote. Anyone wishing to become a registered voter may see the Town Clerk during regular hours (Monday evenings 7:00-8:30) or by calling 527-7221 and requesting a voter registration card that may be mailed back.

Hope to see all of you at the polls this year for the Presidential and State Primaries (March 5, 1996 and September 17, 1996) as well as Election Day (November 5, 1996.) And don't forget to attend Town Caucus (April 22, 1996), Town Meeting (May 11, 1996) and vote at the Town Elections (June 1, 1996.)

Vital Statistics recorded for 1995 were as follows:

12 BIRTHS

2 MARRIAGES

9 DEATHS

DOG LICENSES issued in 1995:

82	Males	at $ 3.00	246.00
91	Spayed Females	at $ 3.00	273.00
13	Females	at $ 6.00	78.00
3	Kennel	at $50.00	150.00
1	Kennel	at $25.00	25.00
5	Kennel	at $10.00	50.00
			$822.00

TOWN FEES -	dog licenses	$139.50
	kennel licenses	6.75
		$146.25

HUNTING/FISHING LICENSE/STAMPS 1995:

21	Stamps	$105.40
10	Fishing Licenses	113.00
5	Hunting/Sporting Licenses	125.25
10	Hunting/Sporting Licenses >70 years	0.00
		$343.65

TOWN FEES Hunting & Fishing Licenses $ 8.40

TOWN CLERK FEES $290.00

TOWN FEES $117.00

1410	POPULATION (1995 Census)
850	REGISTERED VOTERS
115	Democrats
101	Republicans
634	Unenrolled

Respectfully submitted,

Karla E. Stefansson
Town Clerk

REPORT OF THE TOWN TREASURER

GENERAL FUND

Balance July 1, 1994		$178591.63
Receipts		3733109.67
Disbursements		-3666362.10
Balance June 30, 1995		245339.20
Bay Bank Checking		2789.01
Bay Bank Capital		62628.58
Fleet Checking		2609.74
Fleet Money Market		63674.47
Fleet Collector		70426.95
Fleet Deputy Collector		3772.06
MMDT		24263.77
Shawmut		15174.62
	Total	$245339.20

TRUST FUNDS - MMDT

Charity		$ 3415.56
Cemetery		3737.44
Veterans		1203.18
	Total	$ 8356.18

Stabilization Fund

Balance July 1, 1994		$46871.38
Receipts		11507.94
Disbursements		- 8949.75
	Total	$49429.57

Total All Funds $303124.95

Interest earned - $23545.62

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret A. Parsons
Treasurer

REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR

Ending June 30, 1995

MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE

1987 Motor Vehicle		
Due 7/1/94	30.00	
Abated	- 16.25	
Due		13.75
1988 Motor Vehicle		
Due 7/1/94	472.82	
Collected	- 73.44	
Due		399.38
1989 Motor Vehicle		
Due 7/1/94	526.27	
Collected	- 171.88	
Due		354.39
1990 Motor Vehicle		
Due 7/1/94	771.57	
Collected	- 205.63	
Due		565.94
1991 Motor Vehicle		
Due 7/1/94	427.40	
Collected	- 169.27	
Due		258.13
1992 Motor Vehicle		
Due 7/1/94	786.36	
Collected	- 165.10	
Due		621.26
1993 Motor Vehicle		
Due 7/1/94	1257.52	
Commitment	+ 5.00	
Overpayment	+ 237.50	
Collected	- 717.83	
Abated	- 13.75	
Due		768.44

1994 Motor Vehicle			
Due 7/1/94	4105.22		
Commitment	+10680.37		
Commitment	+ 3960.47		
Commitment	+ 1489.39		
Commitment	+ 301.25		
Overpayment	+ 46.25		
Refunded		754.06	
Collected	-19088.77		
Abated	- 81.36		
Due			1412.82
1995 Motor Vehicle			
Commitment	+ 57801.25		
Commitment	+ 11083.88		
Commitment	+ 6613.93		
Overpayment	+ 328.75		
Refunded		235.52	
Abated	- 845.62		
Collected	- 70168.27		
Due			4813.92

PERSONAL PROPERTY

FY90 Personal Property			
Due 7/1/94	99.15		
Due			99.15
FY91 Personal Property			
Due 7/1/94	143.52		
Due			143.52
FY92 Personal Property			
Due 7/1/94	257.28		
Due			257.28
FY93 Personal Property			
Due 7/1/94	111.30		
Due			111.30

FY94 Personal Property

Due 7/1/94	1976.07	
Overpayment	+ 10.34	
Collected	-1546.01	
Due		140.40

FY95 Personal Property

Commitment	28926.87	
Overpayment	+ 658.26	
Abated	- 47.70	
Collected	-27432.27	
Due		2105.16

FARM ANIMAL EXCISE

1994 Farm Animal

Due 7/1/94	1419.90	
Collected	1419.90	
Due		-0-

1995 Farm Animal

Commitment	2189.82	
Collected	- 125.57	
Due		2064.25

REAL ESTATE

FY92 Real Estate

Due 7/1/94	30.66	
Due		30.66

FY93 Real Estate

Due 7/1/94	1507.29	
Collected	- 1447.09	
Due		60.20

FY 94 Real Estate

Due 7/1/94	51654.32		
Commitment	+ 2828.56		
Commitment	+ 395.67		
Commitment	+ 478.84		
Tax title	- 2442.38		
Collected	- 46848.90		
Due			6066.11

FY 95 Real Estate

Commitment	1314823.56		
Commitment	+ 565.53		
Overpayment	- .04		
Abated	-18152.33		
Refunds		8905.88	
Collected	-1242923.69		
Due			54313.03

Interest Collected.. $8153.80

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Blakesley
Tax Collector

I have examined the books of the Tax Collector and, the best of my knowledge, find them to be accurate.

Charlotte R. Wood
Auditor

REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTING OFFICER

July 1, 1994-June 30, 1995

Cash on Hand July 1, 1994		
General	178591.63	
Stabilization	46871.38	
Trust Funds	8295.76	
		233758.77

RECEIPTS

Taxes		
Property	1331005.59	
Farm Animal Excise	1545.47	
In Lieu of Taxes	6795.02	
Motor Vehicle Excise	90808.83	
Tax Title	273.95	
Tax in Litigation	4871.39	1435300.25
Commonwealth of Massachusetts		
Local Aid/Lottery	65990.00	
Highway Fund	36663.00	
Chapter 70 Schools	120731.00	
Chapter 71 Transportation	16502.00	
Election	90.00	
SBAB Reimbursement	253913.00	
Loss of Taxes	4020.00	497909.00
Grants & Gifts		
Dog Refund	377.15	
Council Aging Federal	1000.00	
Council Aging State	1000.00	
Arts Lottery	3000.00	
Recreation Gift	250.00	
Handicap Parking Grant	3489.00	
Library Aid	1761.60	10877.75
General Government		
Licenses	659.00	

Plumbing Fees	2137.00	
Electrical Fees	2485.00	
Sanitation Fees	450.00	
Building Permits	13824.80	
Assessors	141.80	
Planning Board	420.00	
Board of Appeals	200.00	
Conservation Commission	825.00	
Mark & Clear	520.00	
Dog Fine	50.00	
Miscellaneous	1891.96	23604.56
Police		
Motor Vehicle Fines	3830.00	
Permits	518.00	
Miscellaneous	41.00	
Revolving Fund	2573.75	6962.75
Board of Health		
Licenses & Permits	325.00	
Perc Tests	1050.00	
Landfill Fees	20444.50	21819.50
Revolving Funds		
Dog Licenses	493.00	
Fish & Game Fees	454.75	
Town Clerk Fees	601.95	
Tax Collector Fees	3406.00	
Deputy Collector Fees	1562.00	6517.70
Schools		
Chapter 1	4517.00	
Preschool Revolving	38901.68	
Kindergarten Revolving	11735.40	
Summer Program	3110.00	
SPRIG	2856.10	
Tuition	3000.00	
School Lunch State	946.87	
School Lunch Federal	5346.75	
School Lunch Sales	15958.12	86371.92
Highway Department		
Trans. Bond Issue		120776.83

Stabilization		9200.00	
Loans			
Temporary Loans	1150000.00		
Fire Station Addition	35000.00		
Loader/Tank truck	110000.00	1295000.00	
Interest			
On Deposit	12634.99		
On Taxes	8172.87		
On Charity Funds	176.37		
On Cemetery Funds	193.03		
On Veterans Trust	60.42		
On Stabilization	2307.94	23545.62	
Health Insurance Refund		4871.00	
Agency			
Meals Tax	45.84		
Payroll Deductions	201875.31	201921.15	
Total Receipts		3744678.03	

PAYMENTS

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Counsel Fees

Appropriation	3000.00		
Transfer from Unemployment	2500.00		
" " Veterans	1000.00		
" " Vocational	3000.00	9500.00	
Expenditures		7048.79	7048.79
Balance closed to revenue		2451.21	

Moderator

Appropriation		150.00	
Expenditures		150.00	150.00
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	

Selectmen Salary			
Appropriation		3200.00	
Expenditures		3200.00	3200.00
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	
Selectmen Expense			
Appropriation	3000.00		
Transfer from Town Offices	550.00	3550.00	
Expenditures			
Travel	611.18		
Dues	500.00		
Town Report	697.00		
Advertising	384.64		
Copier contract	281.00		
Title search	561.00		
Supplies	379.88		
Postage	132.44		
		3547.14	3547.14
Balance closed to revenue		2.86	
Selectmen Secretary			
Appropriation		2500.00	
Expenditures		2500.00	2500.00
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	
Auditor Salary			
Appropriation		90.00	
Expenditures		90.00	90.00
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	
Accounting Officer Salary			
Appropriation		5000.00	
Expenditures		5000.00	5000.00
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	

Accounting Officer Expense			
Appropriation		630.00	
Expenditures			
Computer contract	250.00		
Supplies	135.78		
Dues	25.00		
Travel	215.95	626.73	626.73
Balance closed to revenue		3.27	
Assessors Salary			
Appropriation		3200.00	
Expenditures		3200.00	3200.00
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	
Assessors Expense			
Appropriation	4500.00		
Encumbered	2600.00	7100.00	
Expenditures			
Dues	110.00		
Registry tranfers	223.75		
Data input	500.00		
Updating assistance	2785.00		
Supplies	2639.98	6258.73	6258.73
Balance closed to revenue		841.27	
Assessors Secretary			
Appropriation		950.00	
Expenditures		950.00	950.00
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	
Treasurer Salary			
Appropriation		5000.00	
Expenditures		5000.00	5000.00

Balance closed to revenue		0.00	
	Treasurer Expense		
Appropriation	2835.00	2835.00	
Expenditures			
Computer contract	250.00		
Bank charges	1045.73		
Bond fee	600.00		
Borrowing fees	110.00		
Dues	35.00		
Travel	50.00		
Supplies	740.39	2831.12	2831.12
Balance closed to revenue		3.88	
	Tax Collector Salary		
Appropriation		1650.00	
Expenditures		1650.00	1650.00
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	
	Tax Collector Expense		
Appropriation	3400.00		
Transfer from Town Offices	1000.00	4400.00	
Expenditures			
Computer	2041.95		
Supplies	2316.86		
Dues	35.00	4393.81	4393.81
Balance closed to revenue		6.19	
	Town Clerk Salary		
Appropriation		3000.00	
Expenditures		3000.00	3000.00
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	
	Town Clerk Expense		
Appropriation	1670.00		
Election	90.00	1760.00	

Expenditures			
Computer support	375.00		
Election officers	546.62		
Census	275.00		
Supplies	348.25		
Dues	20.00	1564.87	1564.87
Balance forward to Fiscal 1996		108.75	
Balance closed to revenue		86.38	

Clerk Board of Registrars

Appropriation		60.00	
Expenditures		60.00	60.00
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	

Conservation Commission

Appropriation		850.00	
Expenditures			
Dues	135.00		
Supplies	6.40		
Legal counsel	220.00	361.40	361.40
Balance closed to Conservation Fund		488.60	

Planning Board Expense

Appropriation		1000.00	
Expenditures			
Advertising	91.12		
Printing	295.44	386.56	386.56
Balance closed to revenue		613.44	

HIGHWAYS

Highway Administration

Appropriation		2350.00	
Expenditures			
Uniforms	937.08		
Telephone	887.74		

Supplies	41.59		
Fees	443.21		
Dues & travel	35.00	2344.62	2344.62
Balance closed to revenue		5.38	

Highway Salaries

Appropriation	76500.00		
Transfer from Vocational	1800.00	78300.00	
Expenditures		77182.48	77182.48
Balance forward to Fiscal 1996		1079.20	
Balance closed to revenue		38.32	

Holiday Pay

Appropriation		2096.00	
Expenditures		2095.28	2095.28
Balance closed to revenue		0.72	

Vacation Pay

Appropriation		2390.00	
Expenditures		1922.80	1922.80
Balance forward to Fiscal 1996		467.20	
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	

Bridges & Railings

Appropriation		500.00	
Expenditures		209.29	209.29
Balance closed to revenue		290.71	

Highway Materials

Appropriation		50000.00	
Expenditures			
Catch basin cleaning	5127.50		
Blasting	2613.15		
Other hired equipment	8749.28		

Supplies/materials	33269.06	49758.99	49758.99
Balance closed to revenue		241.01	

Road Machinery

Appropriation	16000.00		
Transfer from Reserve Fund	2300.00		
Veterans	1000.00		
Ins. & Bonds	4000.00	23300.00	
Expenditures			
Repairs	12080.73		
Parts/supplies	9732.04	21812.77	21812.77
Balance closed to revenue		1487.23	

Backhoe

Loan		60000.00	
Backhoe		60000.00	60000.00
Balance closed to Revenue		0.00	

Road Machinery Fuel

Appropriation		8750.00	
Expenditures		8496.44	8496.44
Balance closed to revenue		253.56	

Snow Removal

Deficit balance forward	-31707.08		
Appropriation for deficit	31707.08		
Appropriation	28000.00		
		28000.00	
Expenditures			
Overtime	4209.99		
Winter sand	9839.57		
Salt	16590.36		
Supplies/repairs	478.60	31118.52	31118.52
Deficit balance forward		-3118.52	

Snowplow			
Appropriation from Stabilization		6000.00	
Snowplow		5301.75	5301.75
Balance closed to Stabilization		698.25	
Road Machinery Buildings			
Appropriation		2800.00	
Expenditures			
Electricity	617.34		
Fuel	1347.31		
Supplies/service	802.85		
		2767.50	2767.50
Balance closed to revenue		32.50	
SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES			
Hampshire Regional High School			
Appropriation	390482.00		
Summer pay	3648.00		
Transfer from Reserve	1.00	394131.00	
Assessment		394131.00	394131.00
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	
Vocational			
Appropriation	82120.00		
Transfer to Counsel Fees	-3000.00		
Highway Salary	-1800.00		
Stabilization	-9200.00	68120.00	
Expenditures			
Tuition	52248.19		
Transportation	14968.80	67216.99	67216.99
Balance closed to revenue		903.01	
Elementary School			
Appropriation	574150.00		
Encumbered	932.76	575082.76	

Expenditures			
See Elementary report		573963.20	573963.20
Balance closed to Revenue		1119.56	

School Committee Salary

Appropriation		480.00	
Salary		480.00	480.00
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	

Library

Appropriation	11385.07		
Dog Refund	209.97		
State Aid to Libraries	1752.00	13347.04	
Expenditures			
Salary	9912.00		
Dues & travel	60.00		
Utilities & lawns	507.02		
Books and supplies	2868.02	13347.04	13347.04
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	

VETERANS

Veterans

Appropriation		3250.00	
Expenditures			
Benefits	1100.50		
Supplies	18.42	1118.92	1118.92
Transfer to Counsel Fees		1000.00	
Road Machinery		1000.00	
Balance closed to revenue		131.08	

Veterans Agent Salary

Appropriation		550.00	
Expenditure		550.00	550.00

Balance closed to revenue		0.00	
Memorial Day			
Appropriation		100.00	
Expenditures		96.29	96.29
Balance closed to revenue		3.71	
CEMETERIES			
Cemetery Salary			
Appropriation		2000.00	
Expenditure		2000.00	2000.00
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	
PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTIES			
Police Department			
Appropriation	21000.00		
Encumbered from F1994	174.75	21174.75	
Expenditures			
Salary	10281.25		
Mileage	88.88		
Dues/travel	320.00		
Utilities	475.42		
WMLEC	250.00		
Dispatch agreement	2000.00		
Equipment/supplies	4358.87		
Repairs/maintenance	1778.53	19552.95	19552.95
Balance encumbered to F1996		1214.31	
Balance closed to revenue		407.50	
Constable			
Appropriation		1.00	
Balance closed to revenue		1.00	
Fire Chief & Forest Warden			
Appropriation		825.00	
Expenditure		825.00	825.00

Balance closed to revenue		0.00	
Fire Department			
Appropriation	8550.00		
Balance from Fiscal 1994	1255.00	9805.00	
Expenditures			
Amherst dispatch	375.00		
Southampton ambulance	2000.00		
Hazardous fund	186.00		
Repairs	904.48		
Telephone	2032.37		
Supplies/equipment	3283.28	8781.13	8781.13
Balance closed to revenue		1023.87	
Tank Truck			
Loan	50000.00		
Transfer from Free Cash	7500.00	57500.00	
Expenditures			
Truck	34000.00		
Tank	18909.00		
Outfit	3491.69	56400.69	56400.69
Balance forward to F1996		1099.31	
Fire Station Addition			
Loan		35000.00	
Expenditures			
Hired Equipment	1620.00		
Materials	408.36	2028.36	2028.36
Balance forward to F1996		32971.64	
Inspector Salary			
Appropriation	4800.00		
Balance from F1994	90.00		
Transfer from Free Cash	1800.00	6690.00	
Expenditures			
Building Inspector	3000.00		

Plumbing Inspector	900.00		
Sanitation Inspector	315.00		
Wiring Inspector	1605.00	5820.00	5820.00
Balance closed to revenue		870.00	

Civil Defense

Appropriation		1.00	
Balance closed to revenue		1.00	

Dog Officer

Appropriation		1.00	
Balance closed to revenue		1.00	

Dutch Elm Disease

Appropriation		1.00	
Balance closed to revenue		1.00	

Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative

Appropriation		4512.00	
Assessment		2255.90	2255.90
Blance forward to F1996		2256.10	

Board of Health Salary

Appropriation		900.00	
Expenditures		900.00	900.00
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	

Board of Health

Appropriation		12600.00	
Expenditures			
Salary	6518.25		
Landfill contract	600.00		
Oil removal	291.00		
Recyclable removal	2400.00		
Stickers	1382.77	11192.03	11192.03

Balance closed to revenue		1407.97	
Landfill Capping			
Balance forward from F1994	7801.50		
Appropriation	7750.00	15551.50	
Expenditures - testing		1753.20	1753.20
Balance forward to F1996		13798.30	
DEBT & INTEREST			
Interest on Short-term Loans			
Appropriation	2500.00		
Transfer from Ins.& Bonds	2000.00		
Unemployment	2500.00	7000.00	
Interest		6793.67	6793.67
Balance closed to revenue		206.33	
Interest on Long-term Loans			
From Tax Recap		224288.50	
Interest			
On School loan	221005.00		
On loader/tank truck	3283.50	224288.50	224288.50
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	
School Loan			
From Tax Recap		200000.00	
Principle payment		200000.00	200000.00
Balance closed to Revenue		0.00	
UNCLASSIFIED			
Insurance & Bonds			
Appropriation		32900.00	
Expenditures			
Workmen's Comp	4994.00		
Property & Casualty	14476.00		

Public/Police Liability	4147.00		
Police Disability	559.00		
Fire Disability	2034.00		
Bonds	666.00	26876.00	26876.00
Transfer to Int Temp Loan		2000.00	
Road Machinery		4000.00	
Balance closed to revenue		24.00	

Town Offices

Appropriation		11970.00	
Expenditures			
Salary	700.00		
Electricity	1445.60		
Telephone	768.93		
Copier	307.50		
Lawns	849.00		
Fuel	1024.95		
Water	202.62		
Repairs & Improvements	1531.95		
Handicap Ramp	1897.26		
Supplies	287.67	9015.48	9015.48
Transfer to Selectmen Exp.		550.00	
Tax Collector		1000.00	
Balance closed to Revenue		1404.52	

Council on Aging

Appropriation		815.00	
Expenditures		815.00	815.00
Balance closed to Revenue		0.00	

Recreation

Appropriation		100.00	
Expenditures		100.00	100.00
Balance closed to Revenue		0.00	

Historical			
Appropriation		200.00	
Expenditures			
Electricity	133.19	133.19	133.19
Balance closed to revenue		66.81	
County Retirement			
Appropriation		23103.00	
Assessment		23103.00	23103.00
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	
Unemployment			
Appropriation		5200.00	
Transfer to:			
Int. on Short Term Debt	2500.00		
Counsel Fees	2500.00	5000.00	
Balance closed to revenue		200.00	
Group Insurance			
Appropriation		62000.00	
Expenditures			
Town's share		60889.52	60889.52
Balance closed to revenue		1110.48	
Group Insurance Trust			
Transfer from Free Cash		4871.00	
Balance forward to FY1996		4871.00	
Medicare			
Appropriation	3500.00		
Refund from IRS	74.50		
Transfer from Preschool	431.87	4006.37	
Expenditure		4006.37	4006.37
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	

Land Damage			
Appropriation		1.00	
Expenditure		1.00	1.00
Balance closed to revenue		0.00	
Reserve Fund			
Appropriation		2500.00	
Transfer to:			
Hampshire Regional	1.00		
Road Machinery	2300.00	2301.00	
Balance closed to revenue		199.00	
NON-APPROPRIATION EXPENDITURES			
Tax Refunds			
Property Tax	9375.86		
Motor Vehicle Excise	1676.34	11052.20	11052.20
Payroll Deductions			
Health Insurance	27754.38		
Life Insurance	170.48		
State & Federal Taxes	90964.30		
Medicare & Soc. Security	4470.27		
Retirement	77010.59	200370.02	200370.02
School Revolving Funds & Grants			
School Lunch	20559.15		
Meals Tax	45.84		
Chapter 1	4517.00		
Preschool	49517.57		
Kindergarten	5526.75		
Summer Program	5695.89		
SPRIG	2856.10	88718.30	88718.30
Special Revenue & Revolving Funds			
Highway	153909.00		
Arts Lottery	2520.00		
Cemetery Gift	5.00		
Recreation Gift	250.00		
Council on Aging-State	1000.00		

Council on Aging-Federal	1014.76		
Handicap Parking	3489.00		
Cemetery Trust Interest	203.00		
Street & Wright Trust	200.00		
Thayer Fund	985.00		
Dog Licenses	378.00		
Police Revolving	2531.75		
Tax Collector Fees	3516.00		
Deputy Fees	1455.00		
Town Clerk Fees	171.50		
Fish & Wildlife Fees	454.75	172082.76	172082.76
Loans			
Temporary Loans		1150000.00	1150000.00
State & County Assessments			
Hampshire County Tax	4060.50		
RMV Non-renewal	360.00		
Air Pollution	303.00		
Energy Grant	375.00		
FRTA	327.00		
STRAP Repayment	5000.00		
Pioneer Valley Planning	199.05	10624.55	10624.55
Transfer to Stabilization		9200.00	9200.00
Total Expenditures		3675311.85	3675311.85
Cash on Hand June 30, 1995			
General	245339.20		
Stabilization	49429.57		
Trust Funds	8356.18	303124.95	

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret A. Parsons
Accounting Officer

TOWN OF WESTHAMPTON BALANCE SHEET JUNE 30, 1995

Cash	245339.20	Agency	
		Health Insurance	5295.27
Taxes		Life Insurance	52.98
Levy of 1995		Dog licenses	115.00
Real Estate	54152.00		
Personal Property	2105.16	Grants & Gifts	
Levy of 1994		Highway Gift	100.00
Real Estate	6066.11	DARE	37.39
Personal Property	140.40	Council on Aging Federal	468.98
Levy of 1993		Arts Lottery	3523.56
Real Estate	60.20	Ins. Reimbursement	4704.00
Personal Property	111.30	State Aid to Library	1726.05
Levy of 1992		Cultural Council	129.00
Real Estate	30.66		
Personal Property	257.28	Revolving Funds	
Levy of 1991		Tax Collector Fees	285.00
Personal Property	143.52	Deputy Collector Fees	161.00
Levy of 1990		Town Clerk Fees	9.51
Personal Property	99.15	Police Department	42.00
		Pre-School	1886.21
Farm Animal Excise	2064.25	Kindergarten	11246.97
		School Lunch	3254.70
Motor Vehicle Excise			
Levy of 1995	4971.31	Interest on Trusts	
1994	1412.82	Street & Wright	196.89
1993	768.44	Thayer	35.18
1992	621.26	Cemetery	16.82
1991	258.13		
1990	565.94	Receipts Res. for Approp.	
1989	354.39	Conservation Commission	2268.01
1988	399.38	County Dog Refund	377.15
1987	13.75	Sale of Town Property	106000.00
In Lieu of Taxes	1504.14	Revenues Reserved Until Collected	
		Tax Title Revenue	5201.81
Tax Titles & Possessions		Motor Vehicle Excise	9365.42
Tax Titles	5201.81	Farm Excise	2064.25
		Departmental Revenue	1504.14
Loans Authorized	962.00	Aid to Highway Revenue	33132.17
State Aid to Highways	33132.17	Loans Authorized & Unissued	962.00

Under estimates		Overlays Reserved for Abatement	
RMV Non-renewal surcharge	360.00	1990	99.15
Summer Program	2585.89	1991	143.52
		1993	171.50
Transportation Bond Issue	33132.17	1994	2813.34
		1995	3358.68
Appropriation Balances			
Snow Removal	3118.52	Overlay Surplus	9000.00
		Surplus Revenue	132317.89
		Appropriation Balances	
		Town Clerk Expense	108.75
		Highway Salaries	1079.20
		Vacation Pay	467.20
		Police Department	1214.31
		Tank Truck	1099.31
		Fire Station Addition	32971.64
		Landfill Capping	13798.30
		HRMC	2256.10
		Group Insurance Trust	4871.00
	399931.35		399931.35

BALANCE SHEET - TRUST, INVESTMENT AND DEBT

Trust & Investment Funds

Cash	57785.75	Street & Wright Fund	2400.54
		Thayer Fund	1015.01
		Cemetery	3737.45
		Stabilization	49429.57
		Veterans	1203.18
	57785.75		57785.75

Debt Accounts

Net Funded or Fixed Debt		Serial Loans	
Inside Debt Limit	2960000.00	School	2815000.00
		Dept. Equipment	110000.00
		Fire Sta. Addition	35000.00
	2960000.00		2960000.00

REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission continues to ensure the preservation of Westhampton's water quality through providing local administration of the Mass. Wetlands Protection Act for the D.E.P.

Activities this year included, but were not limited to the following:

8 Building site visits to screen for the presence of protected/regulated wetlands resources;

3 Public hearings were conducted on proposed projects (Notice of Intent;)

3 Major investigations were conducted involving possible wetlands violations

1 emergency certificate was issued to facilitate repair of a failed septic system (done in concert with the Board of Health;)

9 notice of Intent/forest cutting plans were received totalling 705 acres to be harvested.

Other ConCom priorities included updating town Open Space Plan; establishing a fee structure and job description for consulting environmental engineer; development and implementation of a new member orientation and training program; and review of pond draw down activities procedures with State D.E.P. representatives.

Total fees collected were $825.00 and expenses for dues, new member training and administrative materials totaled $361.40.

Phoebe Mitchell has left after many years of dedicated service, we miss her thoroughness and sense of commitment. New members are Garry Cousins, Nancy Whitley and Daniel Pikett. We welcome their interest, energy and enthusiasm. Continuing members are Larry Cervelli, Walter Brown, Amy Phinney, all providing the needed continuity, and chairperson, Bob LaPalme.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert LaPalme, Chairman

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board of Health welcomes Bob Turner, of Main Road, as a new member. Bob works in the food service business and his considerable experience in this field is very helpful.

The Board acknowledges past member Phil Dowling's effort on the Board of Health. Mr. Dowling resigned from the Board after 1 1/2 years contribution.

The Board has had only two members since July 1995. Anyone interested in being a member should contact the Board of Health.

The Board of Health continues to meet every second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.

This year has been quite busy with the landfill taking up much of our time. Over 320 Westhampton households and businesses bought $25.00 disposal permits for the landfill this past year.

Special appreciation and best wishes go to Arnold Holt who resigned as the landfill attendant this year due to health reasons. We're sure that all residents who used the landfill and knew Arnold will miss him.

The new landfill attendant is Michael Broshears. Michael has filled in very nicely and we look forward to working with him for a long time.

Thanks again to Roscoe Hurd and Jeff Nehring for their continued good work running the loader at the landfill.

The use of stickers that are applied by users to their own bags seems to be working relatively well. The cost of the stickers is much less than the bags were, but monitoring what's coming in is much harder for the attendant.

The Board would like to thank Laurie Devine for helping us to organize our files.

The Board would like to thank the Boy Scouts for the signage for the landfill and their help in and around the landfill.

Several programs and clinics have been sponsored by the Board in the past year:

- The HRMC organized a paint swap at the landfill.
- A rabies clinic was held in May. Dr. Hayden vaccinated many dogs and cats..
- Five families were able to participate in the annual hazardous waste collection program that was set up with the other hilltowns and the HRMC.
- The HRMC organized the construction of a paint storage shed at the landfill.

The Board of Health, in conjunction with the Board of Selectmen, received a grant of $100,000 from the state for the purpose of loaning money to low and moderate income families who need to repair or replace their septic systems. Any residents who are interested in this low-interest money should contact the Board of Health.

Percolation tests were held as usual in April and May. Thirty-five tests were witnessed by the Board.

Twenty-eight new and repair septic designs were permitted.

Perc extensions were given to those who requested.

Seven installers permits granted.

Three water analysis reports were submitted and approved.

Conducted routine inspections of Outlook Farm.

Three general licenses were given.

The Board acted on several complaints:
-Illegal septic installation on Main Road
-Acted on complaints by neighbors regarding Jaws Auto Recycling.

Respectfully submitted,

John H. Sackrey, Chairman
Robert Turner

REPORT OF THE HILLTOWN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COOPERATIVE

The Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative is a municipal funded waste management an recycling organization consisting of eleven communities - Ashfield, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Hatfield, Huntington, Middlefield, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg, and Worthington. These towns joined forces through an intermunicipal agreement in 1989 to cooperatively deal with their waste management and recycling problems. The HRMC, as part of its charter, is directed to create and implement a comprehensive waste management strategy for the region. The HRMC realizes that waste prevention through regional cooperative outreach and technical assistance programs is the most effective cost prevention strategy at the local level. The four main goals of the HRMC are to:

1. Assist the towns in monitoring and controlling waste disposal and recycling costs.

2. Perform aggressive and proactive education/outreach programs through the schools, town meetings, and regionally. Programs such as the Household Hazardous Waste Collection, the compost bin distribution and general education to keep the public informed about waste management and recycling issues.

3. Advocate on behalf of the towns concerning statewide waste management and recycling related issues

when appropriate.

4. Keep abreast of changing state and federal regulations on behalf of local boards which manage the towns' waste disposal and recycling programs.

We each are responsible for generating over 2000 lbs. of trash and recyclables and 30 lbs. of Household Hazardous Waste each year. Educating residents and broadening the options available locally, like we did this year with compost bins and the expanded paper and plastic recycling programs is our main mission. It is the combined efforts of the eleven HRMC member towns through the Board members, volunteers and its administrator which allow the HRMC to accomplish its goals. To this end, the HRMC has dedicated 1/2 of its $54,316.02 budget to education and outreach efforts and the remainder of its budget to technical assistance and other HRMC programs. The HRMC has also been awarded over $9,000 in Federal, State and private grant money over the past year to further assist us in all of our efforts.

It is my pleasure to serve as administrator of the HRMC. The HRMC is here as a resource for you. If you have any questions about waste disposal or recycling, please call our Community Help Line in Williamsburg at (413) 268-3845. This is your cooperative-together we can make it work.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Weiss, Administrator

REPORT OF THE ANIMAL INSPECTOR

The annual Farm Animal Census was completed in January 1996 with the following results:

Dairy -	Cows	204
	Heifers	89
	Calves	87

	Bulls	3
Beef -	Heifers	8
	Calves	7
	Steers	7
Oxen		1
Horses		101
Ponies		6
Donkeys		4
Goats		16
Sheep		24
Swine		2
Poultry		71
Fowl		82
Rabbits		10
Emus		14

All the animals were healthy and well cared for. There were six 10 day quarantine orders issued, all of which were negative. All residents are again reminded that, by law, all dogs and cats must be vaccinated for rabies and the records need to be maintained. Rabies is an ongoing concern and the appropriate safeguards need to be kept in mind, including keeping our pets and livestock vaccinated, being aware of, and avoiding, wildlife that acts strangely, and avoiding contact with stray animals.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard I. Tracy
Animal Health Inspector

REPORT OF THE CEMETERY CARETAKER

1995 began with the normal spring clean-up. Steve Holt brought in some loam which was used for grading in the north east corner where the large pine trees were removed in the fall of 1994. This led into a long mowing season.

The cracks in the road were repaired through the highway department. The Cemetery Commission decided to have the dirt road in section III paved. Cliff

Clark from Williamsburg was low bidder. He paved late in the fall.

The door to the tomb was replaced this year also. R & L Sheet Metal in Easthampton took care of this project.

The Westhampton Cemetery Association also updated the Rules and Regulations for our cemetery. The major change is the plot price for non-residents who have immediate family members buried here. This was done to bring Westhampton in line with other cemeteries in the area. It also reinforces that the cemetery will be closed to burials during the winter months. A copy of our updated Rules and Regulations is available on request. The last printing of our rules and regulations was in 1964.

This year there were:

8 burials
3 cremations
12 new lots
2 foundations

Respectfully submitted,

Edward C. Fisher
Cemetery Caretaker

REPORT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

As in previous years, the Police Department continued to provide the residents of Westhampton with professional and expedient service. The continued presence of cruiser patrols has shown a proven effect on property crimes and accidents, and other areas. The Police Department has continued to support the DARE program, as well as other safety programs in the Elementary School. All Officers have attended mandatory refresher training as well as monthly Association meetings. The Department has six Officers available

with the addition of patrolmen William Kaleta, Mike Malouin, and David Leuschner. Sergeant Fred Thouin has retired after serving 17 years. Larry Lovett has been promoted to Sergeant to fill the position.

Gun permit applications are taken on the 2nd Wednesday of each month between 6:00pm and 7:00pm at the Town Hall.

Police response calls for 1995:

Accidents	13	Vandalism	25
Fire/Amb. assists	4	Missing Person	5
Arrests	7	Annoying calls	10
Assistance	3	Susp.car/person	22
Housebreaks	2	Trespass	9
Larceny	16	Other	33
Burglar Alarms	36	Summons	12
Stolen Car/Plate	0	Warrants	1
Animals Calls	44	Assault & Battery	4
Domestic violence	15	Suicide	1
Drug Related	3	Information calls	128
Sexual Assault	1		

Monies turned into Treasurer:

Court fines	$2740.00
Gun permits	828.00
Insurance reports	45.00

Respectfully submitted,

David T. Huntley
Chief of Police

REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

1995 completed our first year on the 911 telephone/dispatch system. It appears everyone was aware of the change and the system is working well. We continually try to improve our radio communications,

both with each other and with the dispatch center. If anyone in your home has a disability which you feel emergency personnel should know about, we have an official form you can use to have this information appear on the dispatch computer. Please ask! Also, if you have a fire or burglar alarm in your home which is attached to a central alarm service, this too should be added to our dispatch computer system.

Last year at Town Meeting time we were just getting ready to break ground for our Fire Department addition. John Zimmerman donated to the town his time and expertise in drawing the engineering plans and getting them approved. We all thank him. Walter Marek was contractor in charge of construction and finances and Wally has put in a tremendous amount of time and energy on this project and used a lot of his tools and equipment. Helping Wally direct construction was Bill Kalmakis, on electrical was John Bridgman and Steven Brooks,and heating was done by Jeffrey Brooks. Most of the Fire Department members donated time, labor and tools to the project under the guidance of Ken Blow. The doors and concrete were contracted out. Others who made contributions to the project were Bill Ducharme - machine, Huntley Auto Salvage - steel, Hathaway Concrete Corp., Westhampton General Store, Marek Construction Co., Mike Elliott - lights, Meehan Construction - stone, and Bill Willard -sand. The building was closed in, heated and ready to use in December. Siding, and finishing touches will be completed when weather improves in the spring.

Also, our new Tank Truck was pretty well put together and ready to use by July. Wayne Manley did a tremendous amount of work on stretching the frame, adjusting axles, and welding for this truck. Wayne Buzzee did mechanical work and was in charge of the paint job. This project also received a lot of volunteer time and care from many department members. The final result of both these projects is that the town now has a high quality 3000 gallon tank truck and a 2 bay addition to the fire station, all for the price of what the truck itself would have cost if it was purchased on the open market. Volunteerism is still alive and well!

During the year, Christopher Norris, Walter Marek and John Shaw received certificates for completion of Hampshire County Training School. Mike Derouin, John Shaw and Robert Miller completed a course in Auto Extrication.

We received resignations from Kevin Barbieri, Matthew Montague, Mike Elliott and Gary Guilbault. We appreciate the services these people have given to the town. New members voted in were Rob Daysh and Susan Harrison. Also, former member Charles Burgess was voted in after moving back into Westhampton.

On June 17th we sponsored a Mini-Muster and Bar-B-Q to support the annual Band Concert of the Council on Aging. It was enthusiastically received. Organizers were John Shaw and Bob Miller.

Four new portable radios were purchased for officers with funds voted at annual meeting.

We had 30 truck runs in 1995 and the EMTs responded to 67 calls. The EMTS continue to be very active and provide good services. Their report and all responses are summarized below.

Fire Department responses:

Structure fires	0
Brush, gas or rubbish	5
Chimney fires	1
Vehicle fire or accidents	6
First Responder	5
In-service, other responses	8
Appliance/equipment fires	3
Mutual Aid	2

Burning permits issued	420
Smoke Detector Inspections	33
Underground tank removal inspections	6

Respectfully submitted,

Richard W. Tracy, Fire Chief

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES REPORT

AMBULANCE RUNS

Total of 69 between 1/195 and 12/31/95

RUNS BY RESPONSE CATEGORY

Medical emergencies	40
Motor vehicle accidents	9
Other trauma	16
Cardiac arrest	2
Psychiatric emergencies	1
Other	1
TOTAL	69

Westhampton EMS response 67

RUNS BY INDIVIDUAL EMT

Lee Douchkoff	67 med-1	37
Robert Miller	67 med-2	44
Ned Huntley	67 med-3	6
Deb Morin	67 med-4	30
Mike Derouin	67 med-5	7
John Shaw	67 med-6	33

TRAINING

Bob Miller, John Shaw and Mike Derouin attended a two day automobile extrication course in Pittsfield sponsored by the Mass Firefighters' Academy. In addition, they also attended a one day training session in Turners Falls on emergency helicopter transportation sponsored by Life Flight.

RECERTIFICATION

All EMTs except Ned Huntley recertified in the use of the semi-automatic defibrillator.

OTHER INFORMATION

We are pleased that Mike Derouin and John Shaw

joined the Westhampton EMS in 1995. Unfortunately, Mike Derouin has temporarily moved out of town and is not presently available to respond to emergency calls. In addison, Ned Huntley has resigned as an EMT effective 12/31/95.

There were 10 C.P.R. training courses held with 115 people attending.

Westhampton E.M.S.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The early winter months of 1995 didn't treat us too harshly so we had some time to do Annual Reports, budgets, bid preparations and equipment repairs. The winter season did seem to continue the trend of more ice storms, and necessitated the use of a greater than usual amount of salt and sand.

We did a lot of spring maintenance and also worked on completing construction of Tob Road (North end) and Reservoir Road extension which were started last fall. Both roads are very usable, but neither is completed yet.

We put a heavy shim on North Road (between Montague Road and Chesterfield Road) and followed that with an oil and stone seal coat. We also put an oil and stone seal coat on Southampton Road (south of Main Road) and on the surfaced portion of Burt Road. After the State Highway Bond money became available, we started to rebuild another portion of Stage Road the first week of September. We were able to get the base course of pavement in place in early November, but then winter came and shut down further operations. This portion should be completed in the spring of 1996 and hopefully the last section, that meets North and South Roads, can also be finished in 1996.

In September we were able to hire a fourth employee for the Highway Department as was approved at the annual meeting in May. Peter Montague was the successful applicant and he has proved to be a hard working and knowledgeable employee. As I write this report, it appears the 1995-96 winter may be one for the record, and it certainly has been beneficial to have the fourth man.

We continue to keep our equipment in good condition and it serves the town well. However, we must also replace the most worn pieces on a regular basis in order to stay efficient. This coming year we should replace the John Deere front end loader. It is a 1986 model and has over 10,000 hours of use. It has been an excellent machine and has not cost us much for maintenance, but the transmission is now very tired and in need of rebuilding. Also, an engine with 10,000 hours will not last much longer before needing the same rebuilding work. Either of these costs would be several thousand dollars and it would be much smarter to replace the whole machine. I will make the request at the annual meeting. Also, our Walter Sno-fighter, the 4 wheel drive winter truck, is becoming very costly to maintain. Although I had previously planned to seek replacement in 1997, I now think we would be wise to also replace this truck in 1996. It is a 1973 model truck for which we paid $10,000 in January of 1986. That was a very low price for such a truck and it doesn't owe the town anything. We need this type of vehicle for winter work, but I believe we could purchase a much more efficient truck that would serve the same purpose and also be available for some work in summer as well. These are specialized trucks and therefore are expensive. I will also discuss this at annual meeting.

I have realized that last year's report did not mention our Brush Mower Agreement. The towns of Granville, Tolland, Southampton, Easthampton and Westhampton have forged an agreement with Western Mass Electric Company whereby the Utility has given the towns a sum of money sufficient to lease a tractor and brush mower attachment for a 4 year period. We get the equipment we could not otherwise afford and the Utility

gets the brush cut under their wires. We feel this is very good for both the Utility and the towns and we look forward to being able to continue with it.

I thank David Blakesley, Jim Omasta and Peter Montague for their hard work, and I also thank the Board of Selectmen and citizens of Westhampton for their support.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Tracy
Highway Superintendent

REPORT OF THE BUILDING INSPECTOR

I hereby submit my report from January 1, 1995 to December 31, 1995.

Permits issued	70
New homes	8
Decks and porches	10
Wood stoves & chimney	5
Sheds	10
Pole barns	1
Greenhouse	1
Basement room	2
Additions,siding,window replacement,re-roofing	19
Renovations	7
Garages	3
Demolish permits	2
Swimming pools	3

Building Permit Fees $6,703.30

Respectfully submitted,

Myron Pietraszkiewicz
Building Inspector

REPORT OF THE PLUMBING INSPECTOR

During 1994, 43 permits were issued by the Plumbing Inspector. 31 were plumbing permits and 12 were gaspiping permits. 19 of the plumbing permits were for new homes and 12 were for remodeling and additions.

A total of $2088.00 was collected for permit fees. Subtotals were as follows: $1813.00 for plumbing and $275.00 for gaspiping.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian E. Pichette
Plumbing & Gas Piping Inspector

REPORT OF THE SANITATION INSPECTOR

In 1995 there were 15 systems for new homes and 9 repairs to older systems. Some systems took 2 or 3 inspections. A total of 28 inspections were done for 1995.

Respectfully submitted,

Stillman G. Brooks
Sanitation Inspector

REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Blacksmith Shop Museum was open to the public on Sunday afternoons from 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. from Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day weekend.

Members of the Commission and Friends of the Blacksmith Shop served as hosts.

Another successful Chuckwagon supper was held in August. Members of the Commission and Friends helped serve and were hosts within the museum. Dan Krug's brother, Steve, was again chef and his cooking was appreciated and enjoyed by all who attended.

This year the Commission concentrated on improvements to the museum. The steps were replaced on the west side of the museum and a handrail was added for safety. Several plants and bushes were added around the museum.

A 100 year old sap tank was donated to the museum by Gil Andrews. It can be viewed by the carriage shed. The commission thanks everyone who donated items to the museum which are gradually being catalogued and put on display. Brochures and notepaper depicting the museum are also available during museum hours.

Irene Montague stepped down as chairperson and, after voting, Kathy Jurkowski was elected Chairperson, and Ann Braastad is now secretary.

The Commission thanks the community for its continued support and interest for continued improvement of our museum dedicated to preserving our town's history.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Jurkowski
Irene Montague
Dan Krug
Ann Braastad
Bev Derouin

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

The Council on Aging has continued to be very active in 1995. An increasing number of town seniors have become involved in one or more of the programs and events which took place during the year.

In keeping with our overall goal of improving the quality of life for Westhampton seniors, the COA board decided to initiate several new projects in 1995. The most important is felt to be our growing involvement with **TRIAD**. This is defined as a "national community policing initiative between seniors, law enforcement, and human service providers." The goal is to increase safety and confidence for older citizens.

As a first step towards this goal, a **Safety Fair** was held in October at the Elementary School. This included displays and information from several community groups, such as law enforcement, fire department, EMT's, and church outreach. As a follow-up, we plan to form a SALT council (Seniors And Law Together), in 1996 to identify and address safety concerns of town elders.

File of life materials, new to seniors this year, are being distributed to every elder household. This is a bright red plastic pocket with magnetic backing, to attach to the refrigerator. It holds medical information which is instantly available to emergency medical personnel.

A **Neighbor to Neighbor** program was initiated in 1995, to provide weekly companionship to elders living alone. Visitors are volunteers from the senior population.

A **55-Alive** driving course was held in September, with fourteen people attending.

Monthly **luncheons**, followed by entertaining and informative programs were held at the church from September through June, with an average attendance of 35 to 40. **Meals** were delivered to any homebound elder

wishing this service. A nurse was on hand to take blood pressures, and cards were signed to be sent to all town seniors celebrating a birthday that month.

Get well or friendship **cards** are sent to those who have been hospitalized, are ill at home, or who are homebound for any reason. Cards are often followed by a phone call or visit.

Special gatherings included our **annual luncheon** in May with the fourth graders as our guests, a special **Christmas party** and **concert** by the Hilltones, with Southampton COA as our guests, and a **picnic** in July at Ed and Jean Alward's home on Pine Island Lake.

Four additions of our "COA Newsletter", were mailed to every senior household. We feel justly proud of this publication, which contains news of current activities and information of concern to elders. We are greatly indebted to Edgar Alward for his time, expertise and equipment, which gives our newsletter a truly professional quality. News of the COA is also printed in each issue of the Belltower.

Our contract with the Franklin Regional Transit Authority continues to allow us to provide **free** transportation to seniors on an individual "as needed" basis. Seniors who served as paid volunteer drivers drove 1612 miles and volunteered 138 hours in 1995. Any seniors needing this service are asked to call Edward Montague.

The Hilltown Elder Network (HEN), has been reactivated due to additional grant money obtained by Highland Valley Elder Services. HEN is administered locally through the COA, providing free help with light housework, yardwork, and other chores. The program served 12 Westhampton senior is 1995.

Our minor home repair program, has continued with funding from the state. Grant money pays for labor costs and the elder provides materials.

The annual Flu clinic was held on October 13, with 104 immunizations given. Blood pressures were taken,

and a free hearing clinic was provided by David Frandken, audiologist.

Our exercise program continues three times weekly, with 6-8 regular participants.

Two fund raising events were held in 1995 by the Friends of the Council on Aging. These enabled us to schedule the Army Band in June, and to fund two bus trips, each attracting 35-40 seniors. The first, in June, was to the Cathedral of the Pines, and the second, in October, to Bennington, VT.

The COA was able to schedule a concert by the 76th Division Army Training Band again this year. Preceding the concert, the EMTs and firemen arranged a "mini-muster" for children, and sold hamburgers, hotdogs, and all the fixings. The combined events provided a great evening for all townspeople, and one that we hope to repeat.

We wish to thank the Hampshire Regional High School, the Westhampton Elementary School and the Westhampton Church for the use of their facilities. Town officials and townspeople have been very helpful. But most important of all have been the seniors themselves. Without their willingness to volunteer time, energy and talent, the programs and activities described above would not have been possible.

Respectfully submitted,

The COA Executive Board
Margaret Kelley, Chairman
Olga Hathaway
Louise Marchand
Eleanor Miller
Edward Montague
Mervyn Morse
Lydia Omasta

REPORT OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION

Westhampton youth remained very active in 1995, participating in baseball, basketball and soccer in coordination with Southampton Youth athletics.

Adult volleyball was offered again on Friday evenings during the H.R.H.S. school year. Times and dates are announced and posted.

The second annual ski trip held during the February school vacation was another big success with sixty-five skiers and snowboarders going to Berkshire East via motor coach on February 20. Despite less than perfect weather, fun was had by all.

A new plan has been formulated to expand the athletic fields at Westhampton Elementary School to accommodate more recreational programs. Budget requests are in place and volunteer help is always appreciated.

Pat Coffey, Chairman
Treasurer, Mark Thornhill
Secretary, Jim Prickett

REPORT OF THE CULTURAL COUNCIL

For 1995 the Westhampton Cultural Council received $3000 from the State Cultural Council to distribute to grant applications submitted. This was $1000 more than last year.

Twenty (20) grant applications were received and the review process proved to be quite challenging as we made every effort to be sure the majority of Westhampton residents would be adequately served by our decisions.

The following applications were approved at the meeting held November 15, 1994 and subsequently confirmed by the State Cultural Council in February 1995.

1. PASS Grant for the Westhampton Elementary School students to attend Sturbridge Village.
2. Bravo Enterprises to cover printing costs of Bravo Newspaper.
3. Hampshire Regional High School for a student literary magazine.
4. Phoebe Mitchell in association with the elementary school to cover all aspects of developing, writing and printing a literary magazine.
5. Nick Waynelovich to provide a swing concert and dance.
6. Westhampton Elementary School for an artistic expression project.
7. Friends of the Westhampton Library for the Summer Reading Program.
8. The Westhampton Singing Society to provide two concerts, in the spring and at Christmas.

Community input is critical to the funding process. Please let us know how you feel the Cultural Council can better serve you and the community by contacting any member of the Council. If you wish to serve as a member, please contact the Selectmen.

The Westhampton Cultural Council is accepting grant applications for fiscal year 1997. The deadline is October 14, 1996.

Respectfully submitted,

Karla E. Stefannson, Chair
Joanne Brooks
Mary Montague
Janet Babcock
Ron Baer
Robbie Merrington
Susan Harrison

REPORT OF THE WESTHAMPTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

1995 was relatively calm and uneventful at the Library. The Director, Lyn Keating, continued to obtain reading, audio and visual materials through purchase, bookmobile and interlibrary loan. She was stretched to the max by the existing demands of the library. In fact, she routinely works four unpaid hours per week to keep up.

The fact that Westhampton has continued its financial support to the Library, and has thereby kept the Library certified by the Commonwealth, enabled us to receive a state grant for a new computer with CD-Rom, printer, monitor and the ability to hook-up to the world via the Internet. We hope the system will be available for public use by the time you read this report. Lyn and Betsy have been to several regional training sessions and are anxious to share their new technology with townspeople. Training sessions will be conducted for people interested in trying out the new acquisition. Computer experience is NOT necessary. These sessions will be announced in the Belltower. This will be an excellent (and painless) opportunity to find out what the world is talking about! We hope to see many of you come in to try it out!

The 1995 Summer Reading Program, "Reading is Natural," was a great success thanks to Betsy Koziol, the Children's Librarian, and the funding of the Friends of the Library, the Westhampton Cultural Council, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Visiting performers included storyteller, David Bates, and "Wingmaster," Julie Collier, who presented a program with live birds of prey. Many books were read by the 49 children who completed the program. Preschool Story Hour continued through the school year on Wednesday mornings.

Before preparing our budget request for Fiscal 1997, the Trustees decided to ask you, the townspeople, what you thought of your library. Townspeople received a copy of the survey in their December Belltower. 61

household returned them. Generally speaking, you are delighted with the service and services the library provides with the exception of hours. A significant number of people requested weekend hours, such that, we would like to try a few hours on Saturday this year.

The Trustees have spent many hours discussing the most cost-effective way to run the library the way we (and you) want. It is unfair to ask the Director to work extra hours, unpaid, every week. It is unfair to pay the Director, whose job description keeps broadening with technology, a rate less than most librarians of similar size libraries. The long-range plan has not been completed due to time constraints. We are ineligible for federal grants without it. Soon, a long-range plan will be necessary to receive state money. The library should have a long-range plan. We should be able to plan for out future, not just panic when it happens, and find ourselves unprepared. The Trustees want a long range plan.

The Director will gradually be taking over financial responsibilities to prepare for Dot Miller's retirement. The bookkeeping and budgeting which Dot has taken care of is a function of operating the library, which trustees are only supposed to oversee and approve, not do. We all appreciate what Dot has done over the years, though!

In retrospect, 1995 was a year which stretched the limits of the generosity of the Director, as well as the Trustees. The library continues to operate successfully, but needs more attention in terms of financial support. Special thanks to Lyn, Betsy and the volunteers who so generously give their time helping with the Bookmobile, checking books in and out, the children's programs, gardening and removing snow.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Tillson
Chairman
Board of Trustees

REPORT OF THE LIBRARY TREASURER

July 1, 1994 through June 30, 1995

TOWN ACCOUNT

Income July 1,1994 - June 30, 1995	
Town Appropriation	11385.07
Dog Refund	209.97
Voted-Town Appropriation	11595.04
LIG	1250.00
MEG	454.96
Additional MEG	26.83
	1731.79
Total Library Budget	13326.83

Expenditures July 1, 1994- June 30 ,1995	
Books	2087.90
Magazines	418.80
Supplies	60.00
Director	7574.00
Children's Librarian	1832.75
Sub Librarian	83.75
Fuel	424.74
Telephone	39.02
Electric	336.37
Maintenance	469.50
Computer	-
Dues/Meetings	15.00
Repairs	-
Total Expenditures	13326.83

June 30, 1995 No Balance

Trustee's Account	
Balance June 30, 1994	
Easthampton Savings	1421.14
Easthampton Savings CD	10468.56
Florence NOW Account	2003.96
Florence Savings -spec. acct.	698.91
Worm Money Market	7261.24
H.P. Miller Money Market	11548.19
Balance July 1, 1994	33402.00

Income - per cash book July 1, 1994 - June 30, 1995	
Copy Machine	84.00
Video Account	90.49
Misc books	122.27
Dr. R.Caldwell	35.00
Friends	1477.00
Memorial Gifts-E. Tracy	70.00
Gifts - Trail Riders	50.00
Christenson	500.00
Greenberg	100.00
	2528.26
Interest	
H. P. Miller Account	319.17
Florence NOW Account	56.47
Florence Special Account	19.50
Worm-Money Market Acct.	206.08
Easthampton Money Market	81.79
Easthampton Term Cert.	191.12
	874.13
Total Income	3402.39
Balance forward	36804.39
Expenditures	
Magazines	117.36
Books	1584.25
Supplies	236.76
Video	72.49
Maintenance	646.24
Meetings/Dues	49.16
Repairs	385.00
Telephone	164.92
Electric	601.37
Fuel	48.48
Misc. Gifts	215.00
Security-HPM account	135.00
Master Plan	44.10
Total Expenditures	4330.13
Balance in Trustees Acct.	32474.26
Cash Book Balance June 30, 1995	
Easthampton Savings Cert.	10191.12
Easthampton Sav. Money Mkt.	1642.70
Florence Savings NOW	1322.35

Florence Savings Special	718.41
H. P. Miller Money Market	11632.36
Worm - Money Market	6967.32
Balance Cash Book	32474.26

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Special Memorial - Adah Green etc.

Balance in Florence account	430.72
Interest July 1 thru June 30	12.03
Balance June 30, 1995	442.75

The Friends gave a large donation to cover summer program expenses, special book purchases. The H.P. Miller account was used to maintain the security system. Several special gifts were received. The front stone steps were repaired. Our Children's room lighting problems are still ahead of us. We agreed to start a Master Plan - which will be a long and lengthy project. We need all kinds of help - financial, volunteers, and interior changes. Space arrangements have become complicated.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy M. Miller, Treasurer
Board of Trustees

REPORT OF THE WESTHAMPTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

School Committee officers this year are: Robert Fleischner - Chairman, Regional Representative and Administrative Advisory Representative; JaiMarla Prickett, Vice chairman and H.E.C. Representative; Michele Nevins - Secretary, H.M.A.C. Representative

In February 1995 Barbara Thronson was hired as the district's Assistant Superintendent. In December 1995 it was learned that, due to an injury, Mrs. Thronson would be unable to perform her duties as Assistant Superintendent and would resign from her position effective June 30, 1995.

At a public hearing in March, the Committee

presented a budget of $623,871.00 for the elementary school which was a 7% increase over last year's budget. The Vocational budget for F&95/96 is $91,000.00. Both budgets were approved at the May 13 Town Meeting. An additional $8,352.00 was earmarked to cover tuition for two Westhampton children who were accepted at the new Charter School.

Also in March, the Committee voted to approve a two year contract with the Westhampton Teachers' Association. As part of this contract, fifteen minutes was added to the length of the school day beginning in September 1995.

Once again, the Committee voted not to participate in the School Choice Program because of our inability to accommodate additional students at this time. A committee has been established to explore various ways to deal with enrollment increases.

After the careful consideration of a number of dedicated volunteers, this year the Dr. Thomas M. Cleary Volunteer Appreciation Award was presented to Phoebe Mitchell at the 6th grade graduation ceremony in June.

As one of our goals for this year, we have been investigating how to implement a World Language Program at the elementary level. The School Council has also been very active in this process. Additional goals are to develop a plan for technology and for expanding educational opportunities through programs like Reading Reconvey. Also, in compliance with Education Reform, the Committee will be required to establish agreed upon professional standards for teachers and administrators to enhance professionalism and accountability. So that the criteria and process are uniform throughout the district, a task force will created to accomplish this goal.

In other business, the Committee accepted with regret the resignation of our long time school physician, Dr. Theodore Selkirk. Westhampton resident, Dr. David Slack, is the new school physician. Thank you Dr. Selkirk for your many years of service to the

children of Westhampton, and welcome, Dr. Slack.

The School Committee would like to thank all of the parents and members of the community that volunteer throughout the school year and our staff of dedicated teachers and classroom aides. Also, thank you to the P.T.O. that raised over $2,000 this past year with fund raisers such as the grinder sale and silent auction. The Westhampton Elementary School is a meeting place for many sports and community groups and the Committee hopes this continues.

Regular meetings of the Westhampton School Committee are held at 7:30 P.M. on the third Tuesday of every month, at the Westhampton Elementary School. Please feel free to attend if you have questions, concerns or suggestions concerning school related issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Fleischner
Jai Prickett
Michele Nevins

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Activities in the Union and Region are connected by common purposes among the seven schools, yet reflect the diversity of cultures in our five towns. Much of the work of teachers and administrators during 1995 has been to grasp opportunities posed by response to reform legislation. School councils in each community have helped create positive ways for parents and community members to engage with the schools, and for principals to be strengthened and empowered as school-based leaders. Technology committees and task forces have worked toward bringing technology into integrated use in teaching and learning. Study groups have been formed to develop a clear program of instruction for all grades, founded on the Common Core of Learning and a web of subject-area frameworks. The efforts of these groups will lead to consistent, coordinated

curriculum across grades and among the schools.

A new elementary school facility has been voted and approved for students in the **Chesterfield-Goshen** Regional district, to be located off Smith Road in Chesterfield. Although there is a lengthy waiting list for funding, the project is likely to gain priority approval because it will replace wood-frame structures, and the school could be ready in the fall of 2000. Once completed, we will have met another systemwide goal to equalize opportunities for children in the five towns by upgrading each school's physical facilities.

With the cooperation of the School Committee and the Town of Southampton, Davenport students were transported to the vacant Beverly L. Larrabee School while a new septic system was being installed on school property in Chesterfield. Due to concerns about air quality in basement classrooms, teachers and students were reorganized into combined-grade classes to use four upstairs rooms when they returned to Davenport School.

Principal Carolyn Costain and faculty members at **Hampshire Regional High School** have been preparing for a site visit by New England Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges during March 1996. A visiting team will review the condition, organization and support of the school and hopefully will recommend its accreditation for ten more years. The lengthy process involves all faculty members at the school, who serve on subcommittees that study and prepare a self-report for the visiting team on "standards for accreditation." In addition to this major task, the principal and faculty have been studying ways to redesign the school schedule to accommodate more class sections in the course of the year while providing an adequate level of appropriate instructional time, in keeping with regulations under Education Reform law that address time and learning.

All schools are improving their use of computers in instruction, integration of technology, and access to resource, but the infrastructure of the 25-year-old Hampshire Regional building needs to be upgraded. Towns will soon be asked to support a half-million

dollar plan to re-wire and add cable for television and computers which has been proposed by the school's technology task force. Another $1.5 million plan calls for improvement of structural aspects of the facility and grounds, heating system, electrical wiring, power distribution, plumbing and sanitary service, elevator pump maintenance, ball field restoration, and numerous repairs to fire doors, windows or flooring.

Dr. Norma Lewis, new principal of the William E. Norris School, has applied her many years of experience as a teacher and principal in Texas to school improvement issues and strengthening positive parent-community-school relations in **Southampton.** We are indebted to members of the School Building Committee, who have devoted countless hours to the new school project over the past seven years. The 24-room addition and renovation to the Norris School was completed and dedicated in September. This $7.5 million facility houses more that 500 students in grades pre-kindergarten through six, and boasts a well-stocked library, computer lab wired to all rooms, and a splendid full-size gymnasium. The school facility has become a community resource for evening educational, social, civic and recreational events. The primary wing of the school is also an asset to young families, offering preschool, half-day and full day kindergarten classes this year. The school also offers a licensed after-school care program supervised by the YMCA.

Among the curriculum improvements planned for all schools in the near future is the introduction of foreign language instruction for elementary grade students. This was first proposed by the School Committee and administration of the **Westhampton Elementary** School. However, because we have an interest in providing a balance program for students in all towns, a task force of teacher, parents and local residents was established to study the best ways we could incorporate a program in all communities. Principal Donald MacLeod has been overseeing the work of this task force on so-called "world languages."

Schools in **Williamsburg** also have a new principal,

Fred Venne. Indicative of that community's historic support for schools, voters there supported a special article at the 1995 Town meeting to provide funds for a new computer lab at the Anne T. Dunphy School. Governed separately from other public schools, the first "charter school" in western Massachusetts opened at the Brassworks in Haydenville, and the local school administration has offered much cooperative dialogue with its board of directors. Williamsburg continues as the only one of our towns offering "school of choice" spaces at certain grades for students from other communities, and the school has a licensed after-school care program provided by Horizons.

Besides daily teaching and learning, we are always seeking ways to improve the quality of programs in our schools. Work continues this year on curriculum development, designing a plan that responds to the district's obligations to provide for the professional development needs of staff, and making progress in strengthening technology. Our objective to develop a complete curriculum is in the hands of five "study groups," comprised of teachers and administrators from all our schools. During the summer and fall of 1996, we hope to have mapped out a coordinated PK-12 curriculum plan that integrates use of the latest resources and technology. In all communities, the administration has been engaged in new initiatives that focus on identifying standards and measuring performance of teachers and administrators, addressing grade 6-7 transition issues, and expanding world languages.

All five school committee chairs, teacher association presidents and principals have participated together in the Pioneer Valley Regional Education Alliance and its Academy for Excellence. This team approach links governing bodies, faculty and management with a high degree of communication and common purpose to promote strategic change and pursuit of positive "systemic reform." Through training about tools and methods of systemic transformation with national consultants, our region, along with sixteen other districts in the area, hopes to set a positive direction and sustain beneficial school improvement at

the local level.

No future challenge is more significant than school financing. Nearly all regional school districts in the state, compared with single-town districts, have experienced difficulty when funding formulas generate minimum contribution calculations that inaccurately reflect our true needs. While we are most appreciative of each town's response to minimum funding levels in the past, and are optimistic that the Commonwealth will continue its support of Education Reform initiatives, we remain concerned with the limited growth of state aid in relation to genuine needs of our schools.

Respectfully submitted,

William G. Erickson
Superintendent

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

GRADE	1993	1994	1995
Pre School	2	2	1
Kindergarten	26	27	18
Grade 1	22	24	27
Grade 2	23	23	22
Grade 3	26	25	23
Grade 4	17	25	25
Grade 5	24	15	24
Grade 6	21	25	18
WESTHAMPTON TOTAL	161	166	158
Charter School			2
Hampshire Regional	99	106	111
Vocational Schools	10	10	10
Private/other Public			27
TOTAL PUBLIC & PRIVATE	270	282	308

Personnel newly employed during 1995 include:

Penny Schultz	Music
Amy Wetzel	SPED Aide
Donna Barcomb	Aide
Jennifer Whitehead	SPED Aide
Diana Liimatainen	Preschool Aide

Personnel who left during 1995:

Jennifer Thomas	SPED aide
Anne Deppe	SPED Aide
Paul Kaplan	Music
Amy Wetzel	SPED Aide
Amy Pilger	Aide
Jennifer Johnson	Aide
Pauline Webster	Preschool Asst.

WESTHAMPTON FINANCIAL STATEMENT
July 1, 1994 -June 30, 1995

Elementary Appropriations	$574150.00
93-94 Encumbrances	932.76
	$575082.76
Expended Elem. Appropriations	$573030.44
Expended 93-94 Encumbrances	932.76
	$573963.20
Balance	$ 1119.56

VOCATIONAL

Vocational Appropriations	82120.00
Expended Transportation	14968.80
Expended Tuition	52248.19
Total Expenditures	67216.99
Balance	14903.01

CHAPTER I

Receipts	4517.00
Expenditures	4517.00
Balance	-0-

EXPENDITURES

Administration

Professional Salaries	$14768.72
Clerical Salaries	8025.74
H.E.C.	1442.00
Sch. Comm. Expense	160.17
	24396.63

Special Education

Professional Salaries	$ 5268.48
Clerical Salaries	2188.42
Teachers' Salaries	59426.56
Aides	24200.08
Classroom Supplies	235.20
Textbooks	204.22
Evaluations	5194.98
Transportation	5456.00
Tuition	3910.00
Other Expense	175.00
	$106618.94

Instruction

Salaries	$331869.30
Classroom Supplies	12874.06
Textbooks	4225.74
	$348969.10

Other Expense

Library Books	$ 1760.97
Audio Visual Aids	251.72
Health Services	5160.10
Transportation	36360.00
Cafeteria	7658.83
Equipment	1642.00
Other Expense	1442.04
	$ 54275.66

Maintenance

Salaries	$ 9803.48
Supplies	4415.33
Fuel	3770.61

Utilities	12412.59
Maintenance	8549.51
Maintenance of Equipment	751.35
	$ 39702.87
Total Expenses	$ 573963.20

REPORT OF THE HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

In yet another year of rising enrollment and inadequate state funding, classes were larger than ever, and the budget for classroom equipment and supplies was the lowest in memory. The impact was spread uniformly across the curriculum by decisions that increased the sizes of honors courses and eliminated almost all small classes. Unwilling to forfeit the future to the present financial crisis, the school continues to plan for significant changes and improvements in the curriculum. These include an increased role for electronic technology in the classroom, a daily schedule (to be implemented in September 1996) that allows more intensive study of fewer subjects each semester, a plan to bring each student to proficiency in a second language, close coordination in some subjects with community college curricula, development of the human ecology department, expanded inter- departmental cooperation throughout the school, and increased awareness of the skills needed by each graduate when entering the working world.

The three years of Education Reform have put to the test the innovative abilities of school committee members as well as the administration. Hard work to level the playing field for the five towns has been obstructed by some provisions of the "Act." We continue with our mission to utilize the resources available to best educate the children of our towns - the future prosperity of our towns. Growth in the towns has added to the burden of maintaining class size and still offering a varied curriculum.

Technology requirements continue to increase, both in the education field and the workplace and needs to be planned for with growing emphasis. We will continue our efforts to plan the best for our children and feel confident that the people like you in the towns will continue your support.

Respectfully submitted,

Hampshire Regional School Committee

The student enrollment figures for the District recorded as of October 1, 1995 were as follows:

Grade	Chest	Gosh	South	West	Will	Total
7	20	13	71	26	28	158
8	15	8	77	21	23	144
9	18	14	74	16	21	143
10	10	6	58	15	22	111
11	13	7	47	19	10	96
12	11	7	43	17	29	103
HRHS	87	51	390	111	125	764

The following assessment percentages are listed for several years in order to illustrate the shifting of student population:

	1992-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Chest	11.539%	10.802%	10.429	10.395	10.511	10.701
Gosh	6.769	6.327	6.442	6.397	6.379	6.443
South	44.615	44.531	47.929	48.426	48.713	49.219
West	15.231	15.821	16.411	15.462	15.187	15.044
Will	21.846	18.519	18.788	19.140	19.210	18.592

Personnel newly employed during 1995 include:

Mark Archambeault	SPED aide
Eugene Black	aide
Paula Czarniecki	Language Arts
Edward DeAngelo	Math
Mark Klerowski	Custodian
Michael Lavender	Phys. Ed.
Patrick Mullen	Custodian
Mark Reardon	Custodian
Andrew Stenson	Computer
Barbara Thronson	Asst. Supt.
Barbara Weiner	Science

Personnel who left the employ of the District in 1995 include:

Amy Burton	English
James Davidson	Custodian
Raymond Decker	Custodian
Kevin Moore	Custodian
Amy O'Donnell	Business
Frank Wells	Phys. Ed.

Based upon enrollment data, including preschool special ecucation and vocational school students, recorded as of each October 1st, the six (6) cooperating school systems share the costs of employing a common superintendent of schools and a common central administrative office and staff. The following statistics show how the responsibility for these costs has varied over a three(3) year period:

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Chesterfield/ Goshen K-6	12.5	11.2	9.8
Southampton K-6	26.9	26.7	27.8
Westhampton K-6	9.5	9.4	9.0
Williamsburg K-6	12.5	12.2	12.1
HRHS 7-12	38.7	40.5	41.3
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

TREASURER'S REPORT
HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1995

I
BALANCE SHEET

Assets		Liabilities	
Cash	173082.90	Blue Cross Insurance	1126.04
Adminstrative Payroll	4960.42	Blu Care	1192.44
Southampton Deferral	21372.00	Life Insurance	185.00
Westhampton Deferral	10465.00	MHP Insurance	2452.79
Comm. Health Plan	112.02	Kaiser	484.10
Comm. Based Grant	4712.71	Health N.E.	74.28
Safe Roads Grant	500.00	Mutual Omaha Dis	871.49
		Mutual Omaha	86.64
		Surplus Revenue-E&D	5679.77
		SSAP Grant	439.45
		PL94-142	9107.52
		Sprig	6734.99
		Drug Free	2101.10
		Mass Safe	28.06
		H PP Pre Sch	1755.94
		Early Child II	2250.96
		Health Protect	7747.09
		Palms	869.12
		Youth 2000	500.00
		IEP Grant	1806.67
		DDE Grant	64.08
		Dist Cyrr Dev	4494.03
		Dist Prog Dev	5743.47
		Flex Sch Grant	3483.77
		Summer Progam	728.32
		Medical Asst. grant	13550.70
		Cafeteria	43646.06
		L & D Texts	1231.85
		Prof. Develpm't	2039.00
		Maintenance Rev.	415.51
		Postage Fund	34.85
		Group Insurance Trust	454.30
		2000 Instr. Enc94/95	71696.08
		3000 Oth Serv Enc94/95	4712.88
		CBPA Grant enc94/95	1984.00
	$222501.05		$222501.05

II
STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS & EXPENDITURES

Account	Budgeted 7/1/94-6/30/95	Expended 7/1/94-6/30/95	Encumbered Payroll & Bills	Balance 6/30/95
Administration	159000.00	172632.18		(13632.18)
Instruction	2612712.00	2591321.92	71696.08	(50306.00)
Other School Services	421890.00	403918.35	4712.88	13258.77
Operation of Plant	315923.00	332073.51		(16150.51)
Fixed Charges	576156.00	475690.05		100465.95
Debt	21082.00	20152.32		0.00
Prog/other districts	180089.00	213662.03		(33573.03)
	4286852.00	4209450.36	76408.96	63.00

III
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS

Cash on Hand July 1, 1994		415284.53
Receipts		
Assessment Revenue		
Chesterfield	226657.00	
Goshen	171903.00	
Southampton	1285107.00	
Westhampton	390483.00	
Williamsburg	569247.00	
	---	2643397.00
Interest Earned		20816.38
State & Federal Payments & Private Grants		
Ch. 70 School Aid	1331146.00	
Regular Transportation	233017.00	
State Wards	2292.00	
PL94-142	77536.00	
Governors Alliance	2328.67	
PL 89-313	19360.00	
Palm	2500.00	

Sprig	45000.00	
Pre-school & Parents HPP6	5050.00	
DF Schools	6822.00	
Chap 2	4251.00	
Summer Program	6981.00	
HPG	73997.00	
DDE	3487.00	
IEP	3150.00	
Community Based	26666.67	
Safe Schools	1200.00	
Comm EZ	8660.00	
Dist Curr dev	10000.00	
Dist Prof Dev	15000.00	
Flex Sched	5000.00	
Youth 2000	500.00	
	---------	1884644.34
Cafeteria Revolving Fund		
Lunch Receipts	133506.19	
State Reimbursements	2882.02	
Federal Reimbursements	16829.06	
Meals Tax	304.97	
	---------	153522.24
Other Revolving Funds		
Athletic Fund	24654.52	
Admin. Revolv. Fund	203699.90	
Lost & Damaged Texts	731.04	
Academic Fund	4496.00	
Prof Development	90.00	
Postage Fund	34.85	
Maintenance Fund	1002.62	
Group Insurance	23183.00	
Soc Studies-Books	72.00	
		275964.93
Temporary Loan		300000.00
Employee Payroll Deductions		
Federal Withholding Tax	371487.41	
State Withholding Tax	169546.16	
Hampshire County Retirement	43937.67	
Mass. Teachers' Retirement	160208.19	
Annuities	86866.06	

Blue Cross/Blue Shield	44578.60	
Kaiser	84571.85	
Community Health	1212.44	
Life Insurance	742.52	
Credit Union Deposit/Loans	10796.00	
United Way	936.00	
MTA. Dues	19713.12	
MMC Tax	17407.87	
Social Security	5093.81	
HMO Blue	29013.20	
Health N.E.	1384.24	
Mutual-Omaha	5942.29	
	-------	959082.42
Miscellaneous Receipts		
Deferral	19567.00	
Copies/Records	238.30	
Transcripts	132.00	
Pay Telephone	113.96	
Building Use	54.00	
Refunds	2852.65	
Misc. Receipt	1065.20	
Health Ins	36989.51	
Tailings	512.33	
		61524.95
Total Receipts		6298952.26
Total Balance & Receipts		6714236.79
Disbursements		
Employee Payroll Deductions		
Federal Withholding Tax	371487.41	
State Withholding Tax	169546.16	
Hampshire County Retirement	43937.61	
Mass. Teachers' Retirement	160208.19	
Annuities	86866.06	
Blue Cross/Blue Shield	49745.22	
Kaiser	6274.62	
Community Health	4903.60	
Aetna Insurance	1308.52	
Credit Union Deposit/Loans	10796.00	
United Way	936.00	
MTA Dues	19713.12	
MMC Tax	17407.87	

HMO Blue	27072.65	
Social Security	5093.81	
Health N.E.	6979.20	
Mutual-Omaha	6111.28	
	---------	997276.75
Temporary Loan Payment		600000.00
Payments from Grants		
PL94-14	68619.28	
PL89-313	22561.42	
DDE	3432.00	
Summer Program	6252.68	
Sprig	42028.14	
Chapter 2	2212.00	
Palms	2386.47	
Early Child Q	1760.00	
Health Protection	75507.82	
Drug Free	5623.16	
HADAPP	16406.78	
Pre Schooler & Parents	3314.28	
Mass Safety	3042.53	
Family Invol.	1052.42	
Gov. Alliance	965.58	
Comm Based Prog	29395.38	
IEP	1373.37	
SSAP	191.93	
Dist Curr Dev	5505.97	
Dist Prof Dev	9256.53	
Flex Sched	4358.91	
		305246.65
Payments from Revolving Funds		
Cafeteria	135878.88	
Lost & Damaged Texts	704.63	
Adm Revolving	202635.14	
Prof Dev	267.50	
Maint Fund	796.00	
Athletic Fund	17320.09	
Energy Mgm't	454.30	
Academic Fund	4197.24	
Insurance	3483.77	
Library books	200.00	
Medical Assist.	4450.30	
		370387.85

Meals Tax		304.97
Operating Costs		
#1000 Administration	172632.18	
#2000 Instruction	2646539.53	
#3000 Other Services	407187.91	
#4000 Maintenance	332073.51	
#5000 Fixed Charges	475690.05	
#8000 Long Term Debt	20152.32	
#9000 Other School Services	213662.17	
		4267937.67
Total Disbursements		6541153.89
Cash on Hand June 30, 1995		173082.90
Total Disbursement & Cash - June 30, 1995		6714236.79

IV

STATEMENT OF SURPLUS REVENUE

General Fund Surplus

Surplus Revenue-Excess & Deficiency	
Opening Balance July 1, 1994	111.72
Transferred from Estimated Receipts	5568.05
Closing Balance June 30, 1995	5569.77

James R. Freebourn, Treasurer

PROPOSED BUDGET FISCAL 1996

Description	Actual Fiscal 1996	Proposed Fiscal 1997
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		
COUNSEL FEES	8000.00	5000.00
MODERATOR	150.00	150.00
SELECTMEN SALARY	3200.00	3200.00
SELECTMEN EXPENSE	3700.00	3500.00
SELECTMEN SECRETARY	2500.00	2500.00
AUDITOR SALARY	90.00	90.00
ACCTING OFF. SALARY	5000.00	6000.00
ACCTING OFF. EXPENSE	800.00	2300.00
AUDIT(ARTICLE)		8000.00
ASSESSOR SALARY	3200.00	3200.00
ASSESSOR EXPENSE	8875.00	8600.00
ASSESSOR SECRETARY	950.00	950.00
TREASURER SALARY	5000.00	6000.00
TREASURER EXPENSE	3000.00	4700.00
TAX COLLECTOR SALARY	3000.00	3000.00
TAX COLLECTOR EXPENS	3200.00	3235.00
TOWN CLERK SALARY	3000.00	5000.00
TOWN CLERK EXPENSE	2000.00	2340.00
CLERK,BD REGISTRARS	60.00	60.00
CONSERVATION COMMISS	850.00	850.00
OPEN SPACE	0.00	1000.00
PLANNING BD EXPENSE	200.00	200.00
HIGHWAYS		
HIWAY ADMINISTRATION	2100.00	2500.00
HIGHWAY SALARIES	99860.00	107000.00
HOLIDAY PAY	3106.00	3353.00
VACATION PAY	2470.00	3631.00
BRIDGES & RAILINGS	500.00	500.00
HIGHWAY MATERIALS	50000.00	50000.00
ROAD MACHINERY	16000.00	18000.00
ROAD MACHINERY FUEL	8750.00	8850.00
SNOW REMOVAL	30000.00	32000.00
ROAD MACHINERY BLDGS	4600.00	4600.00
SNOW PLOW	0.00	0.00
SCHOOLS & LIBRARIES		
HRHS (ARTICLE)	443000.00	569360.00
SCHOOL SUMMER PAY	3648.00	3648.00
VOCATIONAL(ARTICLE)	96240.00	102790.00
ELEMENTARY SCHL(ART)	610931.00	660058.00
CHARTER SCHOOL	8352.00	9076.00
SCHOOL COMM SALARY	480.00	480.00
LIBRARY	13596.00	18856.00

VETERANS		
VETERANS EXPENSE	100.00	100.00
VETERANS AGENT SALAR	550.00	550.00
MEMORIAL DAY	100.00	100.00
CEMETERIES		
CEMETERY SALARY	2300.00	2300.00
PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTY		
POLICE DEPARTMENT	21000.00	25000.00
CONSTABLE	1.00	1.00
FIRE CHIEF	825.00	825.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT	8550.00	10000.00
FIRE RADIOS	2200.00	0.00
INSPECTOR SALARY	5800.00	6300.00
CIVIL DEFENSE	1.00	1.00
DOG OFFICER	1.00	1.00
HEALTH & SANITATION		
HRMC (ARTICLE)	4648.00	4648.00
BD. OF HEALTH SALARY	900.00	900.00
BD. HEALTH EXPENSE	14730.00	17485.00
LANDFILL CAP (ART)	4500.00	0.00
DEBT & INTEREST		
INT SHORT TERM DEBT	2500.00	1.00
UNCLASSIFIED		
INSURANCE & BONDS	31000.00	30000.00
TOWN OFFICES	11700.00	11700.00
COUNCIL ON AGING	815.00	1000.00
RECREATION	400.00	1400.00
HISTORICAL	200.00	200.00
COUNTY RETIREMENT	26780.00	33772.00
UNEMPLOYMENT(ART)	5800.00	6500.00
GROUP INSURANCE	73500.00	71000.00
MEDICARE	4500.00	4500.00
LAND DAMAGE	3000.00	3000.00
RESERVE FUND	5000.00	5000.00
	1681809.00	1900861.00
EST. SNOW REMOVAL DEFICIT	4000.00	20000.00
OVERLAY	21500.00	23000.00
BUDGET WITHIN LEVY LIMIT	1707309.00	1943861.00
DEBT	466925.00	459251.00
ARTICLES		
LOADER	0.00	80000.00
HIGHWAY TRUCK	0.00	100000.00
OFFICE SPACE	0.00	155000.00
RENOVATIONS	0.00	20000.00

SALARIES

Fiscal 1996

All figures are annual unless otherwise noted.

Elected Officials		
Board of Selectmen	Chairman	1200
	Others	1000
Board of Assessors	Chairman	1200
	Others	1000
Board of Health	Each	300
Town Clerk		3000
Clerk, Bd. Registrars		60
Tax Collector		3000 plus fees
Treasurer		5000
Auditor		90
Moderator		150
School Committee	Chairman	180
	Others	150
Appointed Officials		
Accounting Officer		5000
Veterans Agent		550
Selectmen's Secretary		2500
Assessor's Secretary		905
Building Inspector		3000
Wiring Inspector		15/inspection
Plumbing Inspector		15/inspection
Sanitation Inspector		15/inspection
Election workers		4.25/hour
Highway Department		
Grade 1A		12.53
Grade 1		12.08
Grade 2		11.24/hour
Superintendent		31720
Landfill		
Caretaker		6.50/hour
Operator		11.03/hour
Library		
Director		7.55/hour
Children's Librarian		5.75/hour
Town Hall		
Custodian		50.00/month
Police Chief		11.00/hr.
Officers-Regular		6-10/hour
Court		15.00/hour
Fire Chief		825
Cemetery Caretaker		2300

ARTICLES ON THE WARRANT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

May 11, 1996

ARTICLE 1: To hear and act on all reports presented at said meeting.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to leave the care of the highways in charge of the Selectmen.

ARTICLE 3: To vote in compliance with Section 108, Chapter 41 G.L. which requires that salaries of elected officials be fixed by vote of the Town.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money to meet Westhampton's share of Hampshire Regional School District's assessment for Fiscal 1997, or any lesser sum as may be certified by the District, provided that any such certification shall be made prior to the establishment of the tax rate, and to meet this appropriation, a sum of money be raised by taxation, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise or appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money to meet Westhampton's assessment for the Hampshire Regional School District 1991/92 teacher salary deferral, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for the Elementary School, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for Vocational expenses, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for Charter School expenses, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, such sum of money as may be necessary to defray Town charges in the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide a sum of money to hold in anticipation of unemployment benefits for Town employees in accordance with Chapter 151A of the General Laws of Massachusetts.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from available funds due to the town though the first half of the Transportation Bond Issue, of the Acts of 1996, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for Westhampton's share of expenses of continued participation in the Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for a financial audit of the Town, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide, a sum of money for a loader for the Highway Department, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide, a sum of money for a truck for the Highway Department, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire a parcel of real property by purchase or gift, such acquisition to be in compliance with all procedures required pursuant to the applicable provision(s) of the General Laws; said parcel to be used as the site for a town office

building; and further to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money sufficient to fund the cost of such acquisition, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide, a sum of money for renovations of a building purchased for town offices, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to accept Chapter 40 Section 57 of Massachusetts General Laws, entitled "Local licenses and permits; denial, revocation or suspension for failure to pay municipal taxes or charges," or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to accept Chapter 59 Section 5 Clause 17D of Massachusetts General Laws, which allows an exemption up to $175 of real estate taxes for a person over the age of seventy, a surviving spouse, or a minor whose parent is deceased, with certain restrictions, or take any other action in relation thereto..

ARTICLE 20: WHEREAS, casinos destroy communities and families, and lead to crime and corruption; and WHEREAS, gambling drains dollars from local businesses and creates gambling addicts and compulsive gamblers; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Westhampton is opposed to legalizing casinos in Massachusetts, and will instruct the Town Clerk to send a certified copy of this vote to our Legislators and the Government Regulations Committee.

NOTE: This is a preliminary list of the articles for Annual Town meeting; it is subject to change and/or additions. The complete warrant will be posted at least seven days before the Annual Meeting, May 11th.

PLEASE
BRING THIS REPORT WITH YOU TO THE ANNUAL MEETING.